

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00

TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01

OMB-01 L-03 H-02 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 IO-13

/100 W

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O R 231728Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8047

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTOWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 03898

DEPARTMENT FOR AF AND EB: PASS ALSO AID AND TREASURY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, EFIN, AFDB

SUBJ: U.S. PARTICIPATION IN AFDF - MEETING WITH PRESIDENT LABIDI

REF: (A) STATE 88107, (B) ABIDJAN 3634, (C) STATE 94929

1. SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR MET WITH AFDB/AFDF PRESIDENT LABIDI ON APRIL 23 TO DISCUSS REFTELS. LABIDI SAID THAT FROM HIS POINT OF VIEW AND, HE WAS SURE, THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FUND, THERE WOULD BE ABSOLUTELY NO PROBLEM ABOUT APPROVING THE UNITED STATES FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE FUND AT THE KINSHASA MEETING PROVIDING THE U.S. CONGRESS HAD AUTHORIZED U.S. MEMBERSHIP. TERMS OF PAYMENT OF US CONTRIBUTION COULD BE FIXED IN SPECIAL RESOLUTION. IT IS ES-CONFIDENTIAL

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SENTIAL THAT US DEL BE IN KINSHASA BY MAY 1 TO WORK OUT THIS

RESOLUTION. END SUMMARY.

2. I EXPLAINED THAT WE HOPE TO HAVE AUTHORIZATION FOR MEMBERSHIP WITH \$25 MILLION BEFORE KINSHASA MEETING OPENS, BUT THAT APPROPRIATION OF \$15 MILLION WOULD COME LATER, PROBABLY BEFORE END OF JUNE, AND REMAINING \$10 MILLION PROBABLY IN FY 1978. I ALSO EXPLAINED PLAN TO APPROPRIATE THREE TRANCHES OF \$5 MILLION EACH IN THIS AND NEXT TWO FISCAL YEARS. I ASKED WHETHER THIS WOULD BE A HANDICAP TO ADMISSION AT KINSHASA.

3. LABIDI RESPONDED THAT PROBLEM IN PAST HAD BEEN THAT USG DID NOT WANT TO SEEK MEMBERSHIP BEFORE APPROPRIATIONS. IF USG WAS WILLING TO DO SO ON BASIS OF AUTHORIZATION IT WAS FINE WITH HIM, AND WOULD BE WITH GOVERNORS. HE THOUGHT IT MUCH MORE DIGNIFIED FOR USG TO APPLY AT AN ANNUAL MEETING THAN TO DO IT BY CORRESPONDENCE AND HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL NEXT YEAR'S ANNUAL MEETING TO BE ADMITTED. HE REALLY WANTS US IN FUND.

4. HE SAID THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO WORK OUT A "TERMS AND CONDITIONS" RESOLUTION WITH THE US DELEGATION AT KINSHASA, WHICH, IF CONGRESS HAS ALREADY APPROVED AFDF AGREEMENT, WOULD PROVIDE FOR USG PARTICIPATION ONCE INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION SUBMITTED TO BANK. PAYMENT SCHEDULE COULD BE AS USG DESIRES. HE SAW NO SPECIAL PROBLEMS WITH THE PAYMENT SCHEDULE I HAD OUTLINED.

5. AS FOR ADMISSION, IF CONGRESS HAS ACTED AND IF INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION SUBMITTED TO BANK BEFORE OR DURING KINSHASA MEETING, USG COULD BE ADMITTED IMMEDIATELY AS MEMBER AND COULD VOTE ON BASIS \$25 MILLIN. IF CONGRESS RATIFIES BEFORE BUT INSTRUMENT NOT READY AT TIME OF KINSHASA MEETING, MEMBERSHIP WOULD TAKE EFFECT AS SOON AFTER AS INSTRUMENT SUBMITTED.

6. CONCERNING U.S. EXUCTIVE DIRECTOR, LABIDI SAID US DELEGATION WOULD HAVE TO NEGOTIATE THIS OUT WITH OTHER NON-AFRICAN DIRECTORS. HE NOTED THAT SAUDI ARABIA HAD JOINED SINCE LAST YEAR AND WOULD BE SEEKING TO JOIN GROUPING. IF US WAS A MEMBER AT KINSHASA, IT TOO WOULD HAVE TO FIT IN A GROUP.
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HE SUGGESTED WE WORK WITH SAUDIS ON THIS MATTER.

7. LABIDI SAID IT WAS CRITICAL THAT US DEL ARRIVE NOT LATER THAN MAY 1 REPEAT MAY 1 SO THAT LEADER AND LABIDI CAN DISCUSS DETAILS OF DRAFT RESOLUTION ON MEMBERSHIP. MEMBERSHIP ITEM IS NORMALLY TAKEN UP FIRST DAY OF MEETING. HE GAVE ME COPIES OF RESOLUTIONS OF 1974 AND 1975 WHICH WERE WORKED OUT WITH BELGIUM AND ITALY RESPECTIVELY, WHEN

THEY HAD SIMILAR COMPLICATIONS. WE ARE SENDING THESE BY
SEPTTEL, TOGETHER WITH SUMMARY OF CONFERENCE DOCUMENT ON
"SELECTION OF STATE PARTICIPANT DIRECTORS."

8. I ASKED ABOUT THE BANK'S PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS, LABIDI
WAS CONFIDENT THAT KWAME FORDWAR OF GHANA WILL BE ELECTED
PRESIDENT.

9. LABIDI DEPARTS ABIDJAN APRIL 25 FOR KINSHASA. IF THERE IS
ANY INFORMATION FOR HIM PRIOR TO ARRIVAL OF US DELEGATION,
PLEASE PASS IT TO HIM THROUGH AMERICAN AMBASSADOR IN KINSHASA.
SMITH

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Message Attributes

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